

CLAIMS

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1. A device for admitting a backwash fluid to filter medium of a filter bed, comprising a member having a plurality of elongate through orifices adapted to allow passage therethrough of the fluid but not the media.
2. A device according to Claim 1, the elongate through orifices each comprising a slot.
3. A device according to Claim 2, the slots having a width of less than 0.5mm.
4. A device according to Claim 3, the width being between 0.10 - 0.3mm.
5. A device according to Claim 4, each slot having a width of 0.25mm.
6. A device according to any of Claims 2 to 5, the member comprising a tube and the slots being directed longitudinally of the tube.
7. A device according to any of Claims 2 to 5, the member being a corrugated member, and the slots being in walls of the corrugation and directed longitudinally thereof.
8. A device according to Claim 6 or Claim 7, the slots being arranged in groups of a plurality of slots.
9. A device according to Claim 8, the slots being arranged in more

than one row.

*Claim 9*

10. A device according to Claim 9, the slots being arranged in rows so that they provide slots both close to the bottom and to the top of the tube in any orientation of the tube.

11. A device according to Claim 9 or Claim 10, the length of each slot being not greater than the longitudinal pitch along a particular row of slots.

12. A device according to Claim 11, the slots being staggered along the length of the member.

13. A device according to any of Claims 2 to 12, the slots being formed by a laser or other thermal cutting device.

14. A device according to Claim 13, the members comprising stainless steel, brass, aluminium or plastic.

15. A system for backwashing a filter medium of a filter bed, comprising a plurality of members according to any previous claim, extending substantially parallel to or radially of one another and each being connected with a fluid supply means.

16. A system according to Claim 15, the fluid supply means comprising a supply pipe for each member and a common manifold to which each supply pipe is connected.

17. A filter, comprising a system according to Claim 16.

18. A filter according to Claim 17, the members extending laterally of the filter.
19. A filter according to Claim 18, the members being positioned at or adjacent the base of the filter.